

ENTERED

February 02, 2021

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MCALLEN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

VS.

6.584 ACRES OF LAND, more or
less, HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS, et al.,

Defendants.

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CIVIL ACTION NO. 7: 20-cv-00244

ORDER

The Court now considers the United States' motion to continue the parties' upcoming initial pretrial conference and joint discovery/case management plan deadline.¹ On January 11, 2021, the Court ordered the parties to appear on February 16, 2021, for an initial pretrial and scheduling conference and to file a joint discovery/case management plan by February 5, 2021.² The United States seeks to continue these dates for at least sixty days in light of newly inaugurated President Biden's January 20th proclamation directing numerous heads of executive agencies to "pause work on each construction project on the southern border wall" and to "develop a plan for the redirection of funds concerning the southern border wall . . . within 60 days" from January 20th.³

The Court finds good cause in the request that this eminent domain proceeding be abated while the United States develops its plan concerning the southern international border and associated land use. The Court notes that of the Defendants that responded to the United States' communication regarding this order, one Defendant provided that "she was opposed to the wall

¹ Dkt. No. 54.

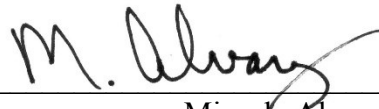
² Dkt. No. 51.

³ Dkt. No. 54 at 2–3 (quoting Pres. Proc. No. 10142, 86 Fed. Reg. 7225 (Jan. 20, 2021)).

and therefore opposed to a continuance.”⁴ The Court nonetheless finds a continuance appropriate given the President’s January 20th proclamation and to ensure judicial efficiency. Accordingly, the Court **GRANTS** the United States’ motion⁵ and continues the initial pretrial conference previously scheduled for February 16th to **April 13, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.** Parties shall file a joint discovery/case management plan no later than **April 2, 2021**.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DONE at McAllen, Texas, this 2nd day of February 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Alvarez", is written over a horizontal line.

Micaela Alvarez
United States District Judge

⁴ *Id.* at 4 (all other Defendants either did not respond or are unopposed).

⁵ Dkt. No. 54.